

Volvo-Cannondale's Chausson, Lopes Win Kaprun Dual

Round seven of the Tissot-UCI Mountain Bike World Cup Downhill & Dual Series resumed racing after three weeks off, with a well-attended and fast-action dual event in Kaprun. **Anne-Caroline Chausson** (*FRA, Volvo-Cannondale*) and **Brian Lopes** (*USA, Volvo-Cannondale*) both have a virtual lock on the overall series championships, but didn't rest for a moment on their way to another pair of wins in the eight-race series.

Flanked by thousands of enthusiastic spectators and great weather conditions, the two Volvo-Cannondale downhillers worked their way through strong fields to take the win on the weekend's Saturday evening. Set on a grassy hillside adjacent to the downhill course finish and full of high-speed jumps and tight bermed turns, this week's dual course let riders choose... either go all-out or crash out.

And that's exactly what happened in the men's final, as Lopes and yet another *Volvo-Cannondale* rider - **Cédric Gracia** (*FRA*) - went head-to-head in the single-run, winner take all dual.



Brian Lopes - USA

The brackets had set the two friends and teammates on a collision course for the finals, where they were even into the first hard left-hand turn when Gracia hit a course pole and lost some time. But he made it up and was again side-by-side with Lopes coming down a steep slope into a fast and grassy right-hand turn - and that's where the Frenchman lost it. He slid out on the inside and flew across the track, as Lopes cruised to an easy victory and win.

Gracia had earned his place in the final by beating such talents as GT riders **Eric Carter** (*USA, Team GT*) and **Steve Peat** (*GBR, Team GT*) in the semi and quarter final rounds. Lopes had a tough bracket as well, beating World Champion **Wade Bootes** (*AUS, Trek-Volkswagen*) and British riders **Scott Beaumont** (*Kona/Ford Focus*) and **Nigel Page** (*Upstart Team*).

With his sixth win in seven tries, Lopes has the series tied up now, with 315 points. The runner-up of this round is also the runner-up overall, as Gracia holds the #2 spot with 161 points.

In consolation racing, Bootes beat Eric Carter to capture third place in the men's round, while Stieger beat Donovan to settle the women's round.

Ari Cheren



Rank	Bib	Code	Surname	Firstname	Team
1	1	USA19710906	LOPES	Brian	VOLVO CANNONDALE
2	2	FRA19780323	GRACIA	Cédric	VOLVO CANNONDALE
3	4	AUS19740530	BOOTES	Wade	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN
4	6	USA19700306	CARTER	Eric	TEAM GT
5	3	FRA19750118	AMOUR	Karim	VOUILLOZ RACING TEAM
6	7	GBR19740617	PEAT	Steve	TEAM GT
7	8	GBR19780602	BEAUMONT	Scott	TEAM KONA FORD FOCUS
8	12	CZE19770622	JOCH	Petr	ROCK MACHINE
9	5	RSA19811113	MINNAAR	Greg	ANIMAL ORANGE
10	9	GER19760514	TSCHUGG	Guido	WHEELER
11	10	CZE19780529	MAROSI	Michal	AUTOR-RB SKODA AUTO
12	11	GBR19741120	LONGDEN	Will	MTUK/JAMIS
13	14	SUI19770916	CALUORI	Claudio	TOMAC
14	15	NED19680416	DE BEVER	Bas	BE-ONE TEAM
15	16	GBR19720201	PAGE	Nigel	INTENSE UK
16	20	USA19780320	HOUSEMAN	Rich	TOMAC
17	13	AUS19810603	RENNIE	Nathan	YETI
18	17	AUS19771105	MCCARROLL	Sean	GIANT
19	18	IRL19770906	O'BRIEN	Glynn	
20	19	ESP19700428	BARCONS GONZALEZ	Carlos	MSC REMEC
21	21	SUI19750315	HEUTSCHI	Remo	ROCKY MOUNTAIN
22	22	AUT19800220	KÖNIG	Ulrich	ASKO URFAHR
23	23	CZE19810925	VAGNER	Adam	ROCK MACHINE
24	24	ESP19730828	SAIZ CASTAÑE	Oscar	SUBARU-SPECIALIZED
25	25	SWE19770208	ENGSTRÖM	Johan	VOLVO CANNONDALE
26	26	NED19720125	VAN DE HATERD	Wilfred	TEAM BE-ONE
27	27	CZE19770805	LOULA	Jan	PROPAGACNI PODNIK CB
28	28	CZE19780109	SIMCIK	Daniel	AUTOR-RB SKODA AUTO
29	29	AUT19750504	LAGLER	Roman	RV RADSTUDIO KREMS
30	30	CZE19830731	BYDZOVSKY	Ondrej	VELOMAT JICIN
31	31	GER19811231	KUDELLA	Stefan	MOUNTAINBIKE DH MAGA
32	32	GER19780620	MEYENBURG	Sascha	INTENSE CYCLES